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SUSTAINABLE FLEET IMPROVEMENTS WILL CONSERVE GAS AND SAVE MONEY

CITY LEADERS AND THE GREATER INDIANA CLEAN CITIES COALITION HIGHLIGHT NEW EFFICIENT VEHICLES

INDIANAPOLIS – The City of Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) and Office of Sustainability and the Greater Indiana Clean Cities Coalition (GICCC) today detailed efficiency improvements to the City's fleet vehicles that will save taxpayers money and conserve fuel. The sustainability measures, made possible by a \$318,300 grant from the Department of Energy's Clean Cities program and the Indiana Office of Energy Development, include retrofitting eight DPW Ford 150 trucks with dedicated propane systems, converting 11 Sheriff's vans to bi-fuel propane systems and purchasing of 25 2011 Ford Fusion Hybrids. The City also received five electric vehicles through a partnership between THINK, an EV manufacturer, and GICCC.

"The improvements we are making to the City's fleet and the savings involved illustrate our commitment to creating a more sustainable, livable community," said Mayor Greg Ballard. "Our addition of efficient vehicles to the City's fleet will result in a more economical and cleaner environment."

It's estimated that the gas and maintenance savings for the propane conversions is \$15,000 per truck. Propane is a clean-burning, domestically available fuel with an average fuel cost around \$2.50. Propane has 24 percent less carbon emissions than unleaded fuel with 90 percent of the efficiency. The Ford Fusion hybrids average 30 mpg, which are replacing the Crown Victoria vehicles that average 20 mpg.

The Fleet Services building is one of 61 City facilities retrofitted through the Sustainable Facilities Initiative and includes the installation of variable frequency drives, high-efficiency lighting and heating equipment including gas-fired radiant heaters in the service bays. These improvements will result in guaranteed energy savings of \$23,287 annually.

To learn more about Mayor Ballard's vision of making Indianapolis one of the most sustainable cities in the Midwest, visit www.indy.gov/sustainindy.

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